

age 50 have a mammogram every year. It is time that Medicare follow this recommendation and allow for yearly mammograms.

This legislation will ensure that women are not denied access to a life-saving diagnostic tool simply because a birthday has passed.

Please support the Older Women's Breast Cancer Detection Act.

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

(Mr. GINGRICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, this is day 43 of our effort to pass the Contract With America, and, as I did a few weeks ago, we finished passing yesterday the six bills which are our effort to meet contract No. 2 which says stop violent criminals, let us get tough with an effective, believable, and timely death penalty for violent offenders. Let us also reduce crime by building more prisons, making sentences longer, putting more police on the street.

We believe we have met No. 2 with the passage of those six.

So I am now going to have a second hole punched in the card. Over the next 57 days, as we finish it up, I will be back again.

ETHICS COMMITTEE MUST ACT

(Mr. VOLKMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise again to call on our House Ethics Committee to take steps to name an independent counsel to investigate the ever growing list of possible ethics violations by the Speaker. Only an independent counsel can remove the cloud of disrepute that hangs over this House, and every day this cloud grows darker, larger, and ever more sinister.

Mr. Speaker, this is not a partisan request by me but, rather, an effort to get the House Ethics Committee to act on this important issue which has now been joined by Common Cause. It should not take our ethics committee 100 days to act on this most important of issues.

I hope our Ethics Committee does not spend all their time fighting over stacking the staff this week like they did last week. We need the entire committee to review the X files put together by Common Cause.

THE NATIONAL SECURITY REVITALIZATION ACT

(Mr. BRYANT of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BRYANT of Tennessee. Since the end of World War II, the brave men and women of our Armed Forces have

worked to guarantee the national security of our country. We should not reward their loyal service by delegating responsibility for their lives to a foreign command.

H.R. 7, the National Security Revitalization Act, would stop the President from unilaterally putting American troops under the U.N. flag. As the United Nations adapts itself more and more for nation-building and peace-keeping operations, the need for restraint on the President's ability to send Americans overseas is needed.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 7 establishes the proper constitutional balance between the President and the Congress and keeps American troops under U.S. commanders. H.R. 7 will give Congress and the people we represent the means to stop the President from placing our Armed Forces in the hands of a foreign command.

With the National Security Revitalization Act, we can keep all obligations and all the necessary involvement in the world community while adding congressional approval as a check to protect American lives.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to support H.R. 7.

CUT THE CIA

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the CIA said they knew nothing of secret government radiation tests on American guinea pigs in the fifties. Those guinea pigs were American citizens.

Can you believe this, Government documents now reveal the CIA not only knew, they funded a radiation testing lab in California to test American prisoners. Unbelievable. They knew nothing about the mining of the harbors, they knew nothing about the death-threat manuals, they knew nothing about Gary Powers. Stone cold lies.

Now, evidence shows that during the Westmoreland-CBS trial, a secret CIA memo says, "Have we gone beyond reasonable dishonesty?" Reasonable dishonesty, Members? Lies, stone cold lies through their teeth.

If Government is going to reform itself and cut the size of Government, Congress should cut the hell out of the CIA.

ANOTHER PRESENT FOR RONALD REAGAN

(Mr. HERGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, last week we celebrated President Ronald Reagan's birthday by giving him the line-item veto. This week we will have the opportunity to give him another present. We will once again return our national defense to a level President Reagan would approve.

Mr. Speaker, under the Clinton administration we have not only seen an attitude of arrogance toward the military, we have also seen a lack of respect, and subsequently, the inability to effectively command our Armed Forces. Mr. Speaker, the only time we have ever allowed U.S. troops to serve under a foreign commander has taken place under the watch of President Clinton.

Mr. Speaker, U.S. Troops should only be under the command of U.S. military officers, and the National Security Revitalization Act mandates just that—no U.S. troops under command of a foreign officer.

THE LINE-ITEM VETO

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I do not make a habit of defending the Contract With America.

But when this House passed the line-item veto last Monday night, important language from the contract was not included. And that is bad news for the American taxpayer. The bill gives the President broad power to veto any spending provision. But the bill's authors gave the President very narrow authority to veto tax benefits or tax loopholes for special interests. This excludes the vast majority of tax breaks—worth hundreds of billions.

The Contract With America said the President should be able to veto any tax benefit. My Republican colleagues breached their contract by voting against a version of the bill containing the contract's exact language. Apparently, they dislike tax loopholes for special interests only when they are the minority party.

Mr. Speaker, let us remember another pearl of wisdom from the Contract With America. It says, "If we break this contract, throw us out!"

ACT NOW TO REVERSE DECLINE OF OUR ARMED FORCES

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HYDE], the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, for the great job he did in shepherding through the House the anticrime package we passed yesterday. Another important component of the contract has been completed.

Now, the scene shifts to defense. When Bill Clinton ran for the Presidency, he promised to cut \$60 billion from the Bush defense plan. Once in office, however, that pledge soon became like all the other Clinton promises, dead on arrival. Bill Clinton weakened our military strength by twice that amount.

The result has been disastrous. According to the Pentagon's own audit, 3 of 12 divisions are no longer combat-ready.

Yes, we must balance the budget, but not by dangerously weakening this country's defenses.

We need to act now to reverse the steady decline our forces have endured since the leftover sixties flower children of the Clinton administration came to town, and act we will, starting today.

NATIONAL SECURITY REVITALIZATION ACT ENDANGERS NATIONAL SECURITY

(Mr. GEJDENSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, what we will take up today is a bill that will cripple America and endanger American military personnel as they have never been endangered before. The bill should be retitled. It should be called the Saddam Hussein Full-Protection Act, because if this piece of legislation that we address today was in place, George Bush could not have pulled the world community together to stop Saddam Hussein's aggression.

But worse than that, in the future it will make every conflict an American conflict. It will make every casualty an American casualty. It will mean every dollar of every conflict will be an American taxpayer dollar.

In the Persian Gulf, 90 percent of the money that that war cost was paid for by other participants, not American taxpayers. It was a world responsibility.

What this legislation will do will cripple the Presidency, leaving him either with the choice of unilateral American action or no action at all.

Defeat this legislation. It endangers our national security.

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TURN THE LIGHTS OUT AT THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I am heading up one of four teams of the freshman class which was initiated to carry on the work of many who preceded us here in Congress, in an effort to reduce four Government bureaucracies: Department of Education, Department of Commerce, Department of HUD, and Department of Energy.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Energy is a gas guzzler. Back in the early 1970's the Government imposed price controls and allocation controls, and that contributed to developing a crisis, and the beltway solution here was to come with another bureaucracy, the Department of Energy.

Since then, the Reagan administration eliminated the price controls and

removed the crisis. Now it is time to turn the lights out on the Department of Energy.

You can see from the chart I have here that the Department of Energy has reinvented itself so that now 60 percent of it is a bomb factory. Only 20 percent is related to energy.

Once started, it is hard to eliminate a bureaucracy, but we are working with former secretary Don Hodele and others in Congress because we have a new Congress now, a new voice from the people that wants to downsize the Government.

Our President has talked about downsizing and privatizing, but the Department of Energy has actually increased its budget. Now it is time to tighten the belt and trade in this gas guzzler for a more efficient model.

YELTSIN SHOULD END THE CHECHNYAN WAR

(Mr. ROEMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, this week has seen only fragmented progress toward ending the war in Chechnya. It is my hope when President Yeltsin gives his State of the Union Address tomorrow, he will define a clear strategy to end the Chechen conflict. We must do all we can to pressure President Yeltsin to end this costly and potentially protracted guerrilla war. We have invested a great deal in promoting democracy in Russia, and as long as the U.S. continues to provide aid to Russia, we have an obligation to ensure that Russia continues along this course of reform. The war in Chechnya certainly undermines these efforts, as the Russians have spent over \$2 billion in 8 weeks. Future IMF loans seem unlikely.

Please join me and Representative WOLF in sending a letter to President Clinton urging him not to attend the Moscow summit in May unless the Chechen war is ended. Over 56 Representatives have already signed this letter.

THE NATIONAL SECURITY REVITALIZATION ACT

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am amazed at the comments by our Secretary of Defense and Secretary of State concerning the fact that they are going to recommend vetoing the National Security Revitalization Act.

This bill addresses a crisis of paramount importance to our Nation, the defense of America.

Not one of our four military services has been left unscathed by the radical defense cuts imposed by the Clinton administration. The numbers are stagger-

ing, amounting to almost 65 percent in real spending dollars already. These massive cuts come at a time when the military is being asked to do more with less, in a world that is still very dangerous and unpredictable.

I served in the U.S. Air Force for 29 years, and I remember all too well the hollow forces of the seventies. I remember squadrons being grounded due to lack of spare parts, and I remember air crews dying because they lacked the proper amount of training. Now I am hearing those same stories again and again.

We as a Congress have no right demanding that our service men and women put their lives on the line at the same time we are slashing the funds they need to perform their mission successfully. We must do everything we can to ensure the safety and security of this Nation and the protection of those who risk their lives for us.

HOME ECONOMICS 100

(Mr. GUTIERREZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, our majority leader tells us that the minimum wage is a bad idea, and that he should know. After all Mr. ARMEY was a college economics professor. Well, maybe he should have taught home economics instead. Every home economics teacher knows about food costs and how far you have to stretch dollars to feed your family.

A home economics teacher shows students how to make meals and bake cookies, but also tells that you have to skip some dinners and desserts if you cannot afford them. And, even though it is a concept far too complicated for someone with a Ph.D. in economics, the fact is that you cannot afford those dinners and desserts if your wages never go up, but minimum wage opponents are not looking at you and your family, they are looking at charts and graphs.

They are not looking at your kitchen table, they are looking at tables of statistics. Well, hard-working Americans earning minimum wage are not statistics. They are real people trying to earn a decent, livable wage. So, I say to minimum wage opponents, maybe you got a Ph.D. in economics, but you get an "F" when it comes to the real economics of real families.

TAKING BACK CONTROL

(Mr. KNOLLENBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, yesterday Republicans kept another promise we made to the American people in our Contract With America. We